

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application. No.: Not Yet Assigned Confirmation No. Not Yet Assigned
 Applicants : Friedrich-Wilhelm BACH, et al.
 Filed : July 19, 2006
 TC/A.U. : Not Yet Assigned
 Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No. : 011235.57906US
 Customer No. : 23911

Title: : PROCESS FOR ELECTROCHEMICAL STRIPPING OF
 COMPONENTS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
 UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

I. Time Period of Submission

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ 1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later) or 3) before a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

☐ 2) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (*Ex parte Quayle*), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:

☐ a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 3) after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ 4) within 30 days of receipt by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application in which each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d).

II. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

III. Submission of Non-English Language Documents

☒ The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:

☐ The relevance of document(s) _____ to the subject matter of the present invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified application.

☒ Corresponding PCT Search Report citing all references listed on Form 1449 together with an English-language version(s) (if not already in

English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.

☐ English language family member publication(s) of document(s) _____ is/are noted on Form PTO-1449.

☒ English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s) as noted on the Form 1449.

☐ English translation(s) of the foreign language document(s) _____ is/are submitted herewith.

☐ Applicant submits the following explanations:
_____.

IV. Continuations/Divisionals/PCT National Stage Applications

☐ Documents _____ were of record in parent application Serial No. _____, filed _____, from which this application claims benefit. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to or cited by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the afore-mentioned parent application.

☐ Copies of document(s) listed on the attached form PTO-1449 have already been provided by the International Searching Authority, therefore, duplicate copies are not attached hereto.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

10/586418

If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge
Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 011235.57906US, for the fee set
forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

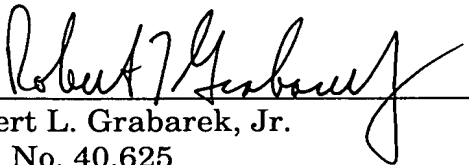
AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 JUL 2006

Respectfully submitted,

CROWELL & MORING LLP

Dated: July 19, 2006

By


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Attachments

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Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	07/19/2006
First Named Inventor	Friedrich-Wilhelm BACH
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	011235.57906US

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Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD- YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passage s or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ —Number ⁴ —Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 1 010 782 A1	06-21-2000	United Technologies Corporation		
		EP 1 215 306 A1	06-19-2002	United Technologies Corporation		
		EP 0 999 296 A2	05-10-2000	Gebr. Schmid GmbH & Co		
		EP 1 473 387 A1	11-03-2004	Siemens AG		abstract
		EP 1 405 935 A2	04-07-2004	United Technologies Corporation		

PCT/DE2004/002799 PCT/ISA/210

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.